

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. The current status of claims 1-20 is as follows:

1. (Currently Amended). A method of locating lost pets comprising the steps of:

(a) issuing a rabies tag to a pet, the rabies tag displaying information comprising a veterinarian name, a veterinarian's phone number, alpha-numeric digits that identify the pet, and a listed year corresponding to when the tag was issued;

(b) submitting the rabies tag information relating to the pet and pet owner contact information to a computer-readable memory accessible by a host computer, whereby a submitting party is selected from the group consisting of ~~a veterinarian~~ veterinarians and pet ~~owner~~ owners;

(c) storing the rabies tag information and the pet owner contact information in a computer-readable memory accessible by a host computer;

(d) issuing a second tag to a pet that provides information to a person who finds a lost pet on how to access the host computer via a communications network and to enter the rabies tag information relating to the lost pet;

(e) comparing in the host computer, the rabies tag information, entered by the person who found the pet, to the submitted rabies tag information relating to the pet ~~provided by the pet~~ ~~owners~~ in an attempt to find a match; and

(f) providing the person who found the lost pet with the contact information for the owner of the lost pet if a match is found.

2.-5. (Canceled).

6. (Previously Amended). The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended). The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the contact information ~~comprising~~ comprises information selected from the group consisting of: the pet owner's name, the pet owner's address, and the pet owner's telephone number.

9. (Currently Amended). A computer program stored on a computer-readable memory device for operating a computer to aid in locating lost pets, the computer program comprising:

(a) a code segment for receiving pet rabies tag information, pet information relating to pets, and contact information for the pet owners, as provided by a party selected from the group consisting of ~~a veterinarian~~ veterinarians and pet ~~owner~~ owners;

(b) a code segment for storing the rabies tag information, the pet information, and the contact information in computer-readable memory accessible by a host computer;

(c) a code segment for permitting a person who finds a pet to access the host computer via a communications network from information on a second tag issued to the pet and to enter rabies tag information relating to the lost pet;

(d) a code segment for comparing the rabies tag information entered by the person who found the pet to the rabies tag information provided by the pet owners or the ~~veterinarian~~ veterinarians in an attempt to find a match; and

(e) a code segment for providing the person who found the lost pet with the contact information for the owner of the lost pet if a match is found.

10. (Currently Amended). The computer program as set forth in claim 9, wherein the rabies tag information provided by the pet owners or ~~veterinarian~~ the veterinarians for each pet includes, alpha-numeric digits corresponding to the pet, a year on the tag, a name for the pet's veterinarian ~~name~~, and a phone number for the pet's veterinarian.

11. (Previously Amended). The computer program as set forth in claim 10, wherein the rabies tag information entered by the person who found the lost pet includes, the alpha-numeric digits on the rabies tag that correspond to the pet, the name for the pet's veterinarian, the phone number for the pet's veterinarian, and the year on the tag.

12. (Previously Amended). The computer program as set forth in claim 9, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

13. (Currently Amended). The computer program as set forth in claim 9, wherein the pet information comprises information selected from the group consisting of: a pet's name, an indication of a pet type for the pet, an indication of a breed of the pet, and a color of the pet, ~~a date the pet was found, and a location where the pet was found.~~

14. (Currently Amended). The computer program as set forth in claim 9, wherein the contact information comprises information selected from the group consisting of: the pet owner's name, the pet owner's address, and the pet owner's telephone number.

15. (Currently Amended). A host computer accessible via a communications network to aid in locating lost pets, the host computer being programmed to:

- (a) receive rabies tag information, pet information relating to pets, and contact information for the pet owners, provided by a party selected from a the group consisting of pet owner owners and veterinarian veterinarians;
- (b) store the rabies tag information, the pet information, and the contact information in a computer-readable memory accessible by a host computer;
- (c) permit a person who finds a pet to access the host computer via a communications network from information on a second tag issued to the pet and to enter rabies tag information relating to the lost pet;
- (d) compare the rabies tag information entered by the person who found the pet to the rabies tag information provided by the pet owners or the ~~veterinarian~~ veterinarians in an attempt to find a match; and
- (e) provide the person who found the lost pet with the contact information for the owner of the lost pet if a match is found.

16. (Currently Amended). The host computer as set forth in claim 15, wherein the rabies tag information provided by the pet owners or the ~~veterinarian~~ veterinarians for each pet includes,

alpha-numeric digits corresponding to the pet, a name for the pet's veterinarian, a phone number for the pet's veterinarian, and a year on the tag.

17. (Previously Amended). The host computer as set forth in claim 16, wherein the lost pet information entered by the person who found the lost pet includes, the alpha-numeric digits on the rabies tag that correspond to the pet, the name for the pet's veterinarian, the year on the tag, and the phone number for the pet's veterinarian.

18. (Previously Amended). The host computer as set forth in claim 15, wherein the communications network includes the Internet.

19. (Currently Amended). The host computer as set forth in claim 15, wherein the pet information comprises information selected from the group consisting of: a pet's name, an indication of a pet type for the pet, an indication of a breed of the pet, and a color of the pet, ~~a date the pet was found, and a location where the pet was found.~~

20. (Currently Amended). The host computer as set forth in claim 15, wherein the contact information comprises information selected from the group consisting of: the pet owner's name, the pet owner's address, and the pet owner's telephone number.